

RIPTIDE: a novel recoil-proton track imaging detector for fast neutrons

A. Musumarra^{1,2}, F. Leone^{1,2}, C. Massimi^{5,3,4}, M.G. Pellegriti², F. Romano², R. Spighi⁴ and M. Villa^{3,4}

Published 13 December 2021 • © 2021 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab

[Journal of Instrumentation](#), Volume 16, December 2021

Citation A. Musumarra *et al* 2021 *JINST* 16 C12013

Journal of Instrumentation

PAPER

"RIPTIDE" — an innovative recoil-proton track imaging detector

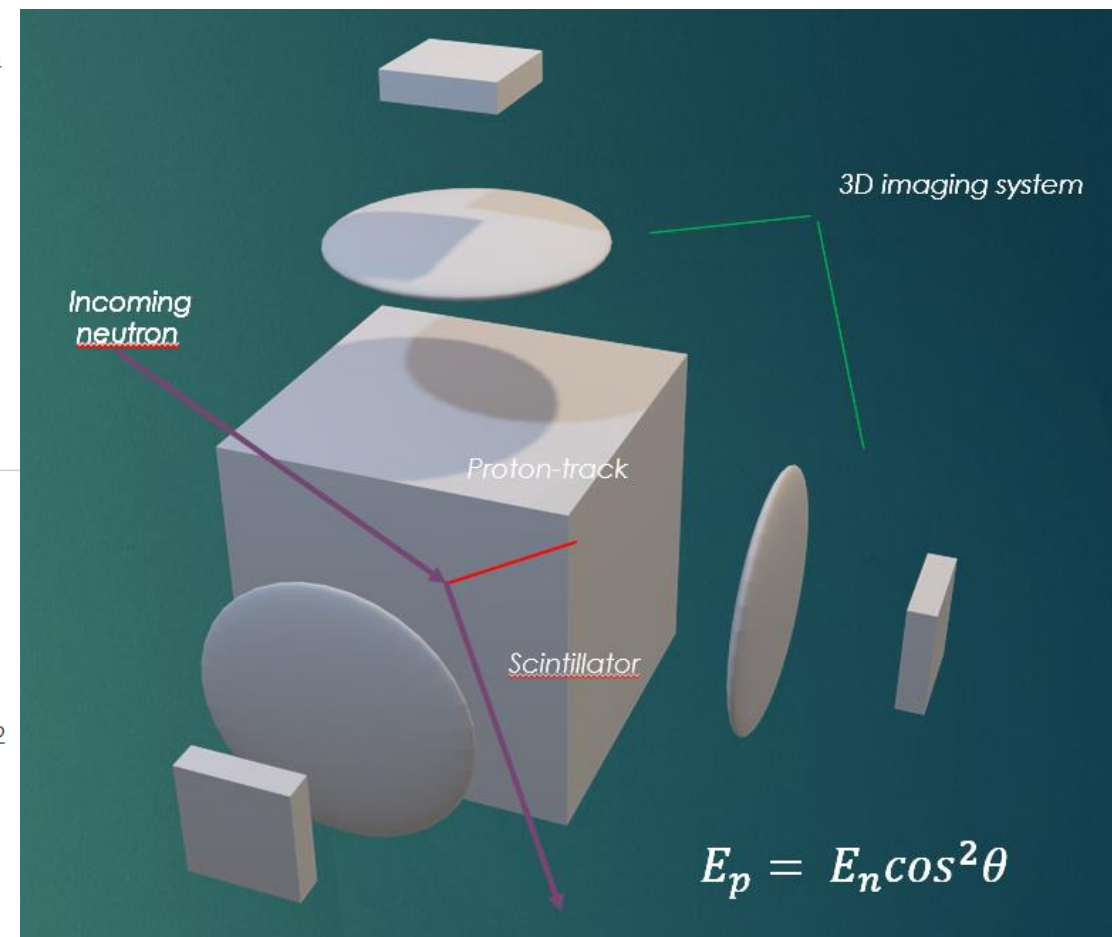
C. Massimi^{1,2}, A. Musumarra^{4,3,2}, F. Leone^{3,2}, M.G. Pellegriti², F. Romano², R. Spighi² and M. Villa^{1,2}

Published 22 September 2022 • © 2022 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab

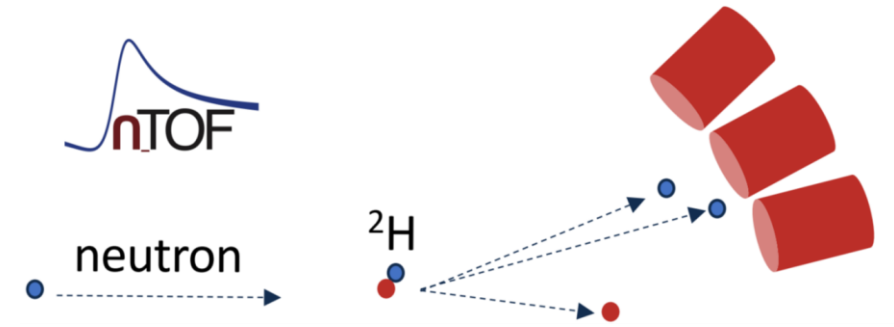
[Journal of Instrumentation](#), Volume 17, September 2022

Citation C. Massimi *et al* 2022 *JINST* 17 C09026

 Article PDF



Why a recoil-proton detector ?

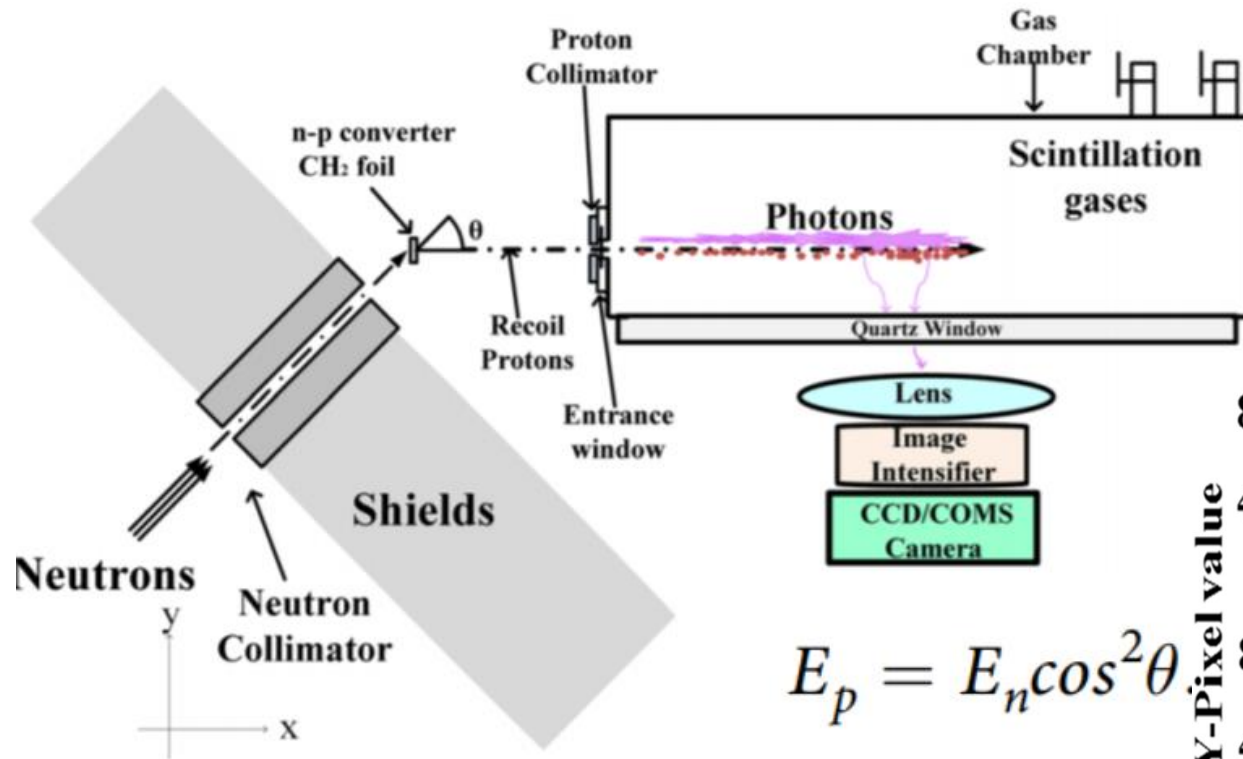


- *Nuclear Physics (e.g. n-n@n_TOF)*
- *n-dosimetry (n-source localization and imaging)*
- *Astrophysics (n-detection in space environment)*

perform *n*-tracking (*n*-momentum reconstruction)
boosting detection efficiency

A way to go: embedding converter and detector

The basic approach:



$$E_p = E_n \cos^2 \theta$$

range \rightarrow *energy*

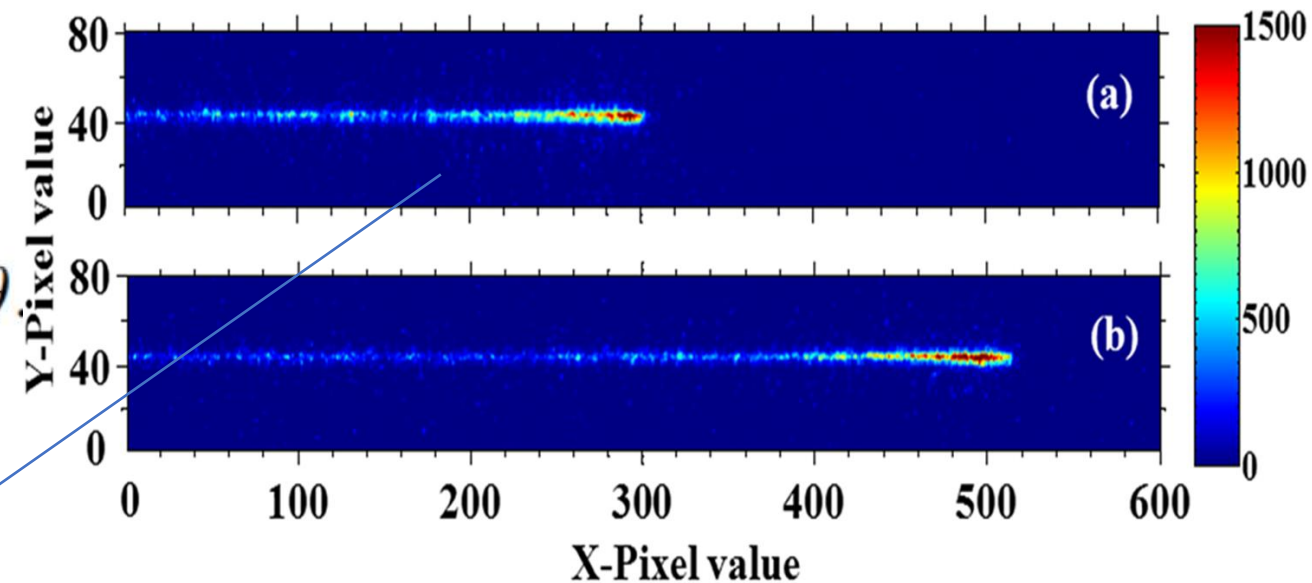
OPEN

Recoil-proton track imaging as a new way for neutron spectrometry measurements

18
2018
September 2018

Jing Hu^{1,2}, Jinliang Liu², Zhongbing Zhang², Liang Chen², Yuhang Guo³, Shiyi He^{1,2}, Mengxuan Xu^{2,3}, Leidang Zhou^{2,3}, Zhiming Yao², Xingqiu Yuan⁴, Qingmin Zhang³ & Xiaoping Ouyang^{1,2}

Sci. Rep. 8, 13363 (2018)



Increasing detection efficiency by detecting multiple scattering in plastic scintillators fibers



Nuclear Instruments and Methods in
Physics Research Section A: Accelerators,
Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated
Equipment

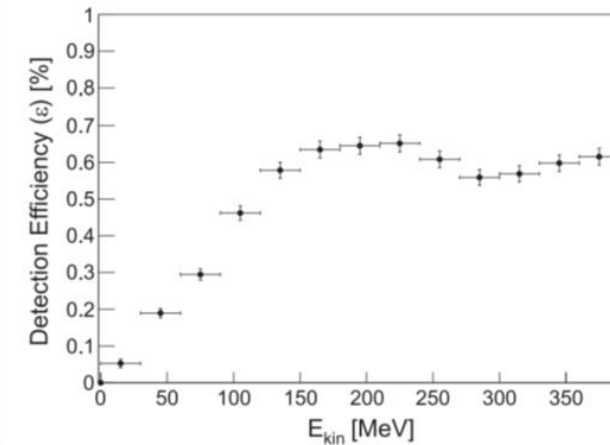
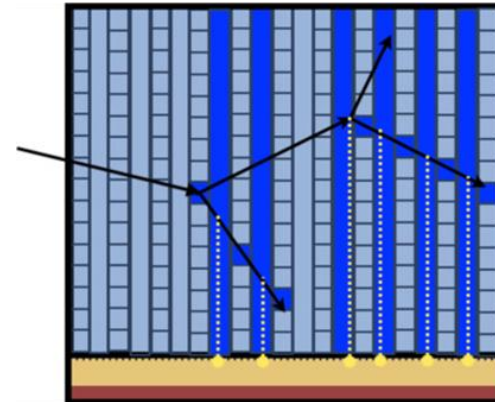
Volume 845, 11 February 2017, Pages 556-559



The MONDO project: A secondary neutron tracker detector for particle therapy

S.M. Valle ^{a, b} ✉, G. Battistoni ^a, V. Patera ^{c, d, e}, D. Pinci ^c, A. Sarti ^{d, e, f}, A. Sciubba ^{c, d, e}, E. Spiriti ^f,
M. Marafini ^{c, d}

“The neutron tracking principle is based on the reconstruction of **two consequent elastic scattering interactions of a neutron with a target material**. Reconstructing the recoiling protons it is hence possible to measure the energy and incoming direction of the neutron”.



Development of the Solar Neutron TRACKing (SONTRAC) Concept

J. G. Mitchell,^{a,b,*} G. A. de Nolfo,^b A. Bruno,^{c,b} J. Dumonthier,^b I. Liceaga-Indart,^{b,c} J. Link,^{d,b,†} J. Legere,^d R. Messner,^e J. Ryan,^d G. Suarez^b and T. Tatoli^{c,b}

^aDepartment of Physics, George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA

^bNASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, USA

^cCatholic University, Washington, DC, USA

^dUniversity of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, USA

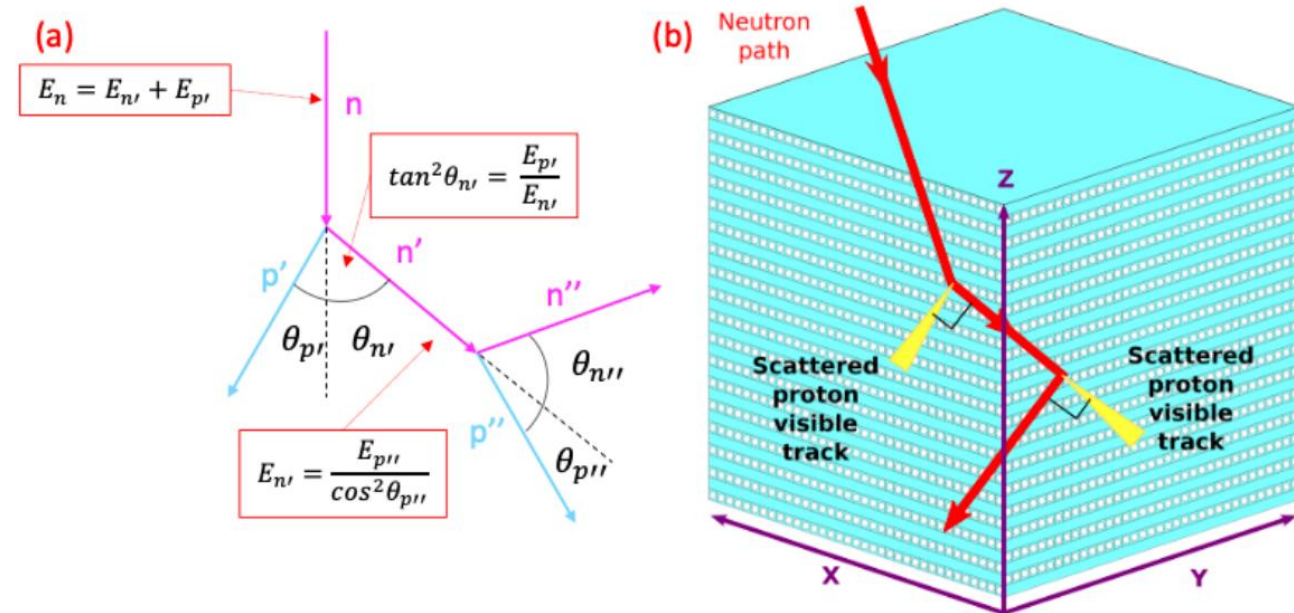
^dSpace Science Center, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA

^eECE Department, College of Engineering and Physical Science, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA

[†]No longer affiliated with NASA or CRESST as of May 2021

The SONTRAC Concept

The SONTRAC detector can unambiguously reproduce the energy and direction of each incident neutron. The approach is based on the non-relativistic elastic double scatter of neutrons off ambient hydrogen. SONTRAC is based on an earlier concept investigated at Case Western Reserve University (Frye et al. 1985, 1987; Pendleton et al. 1988) and developed, to the level of a small prototype, with NASA Supporting Research & Technology (SR&T) funds by the University of New Hampshire.

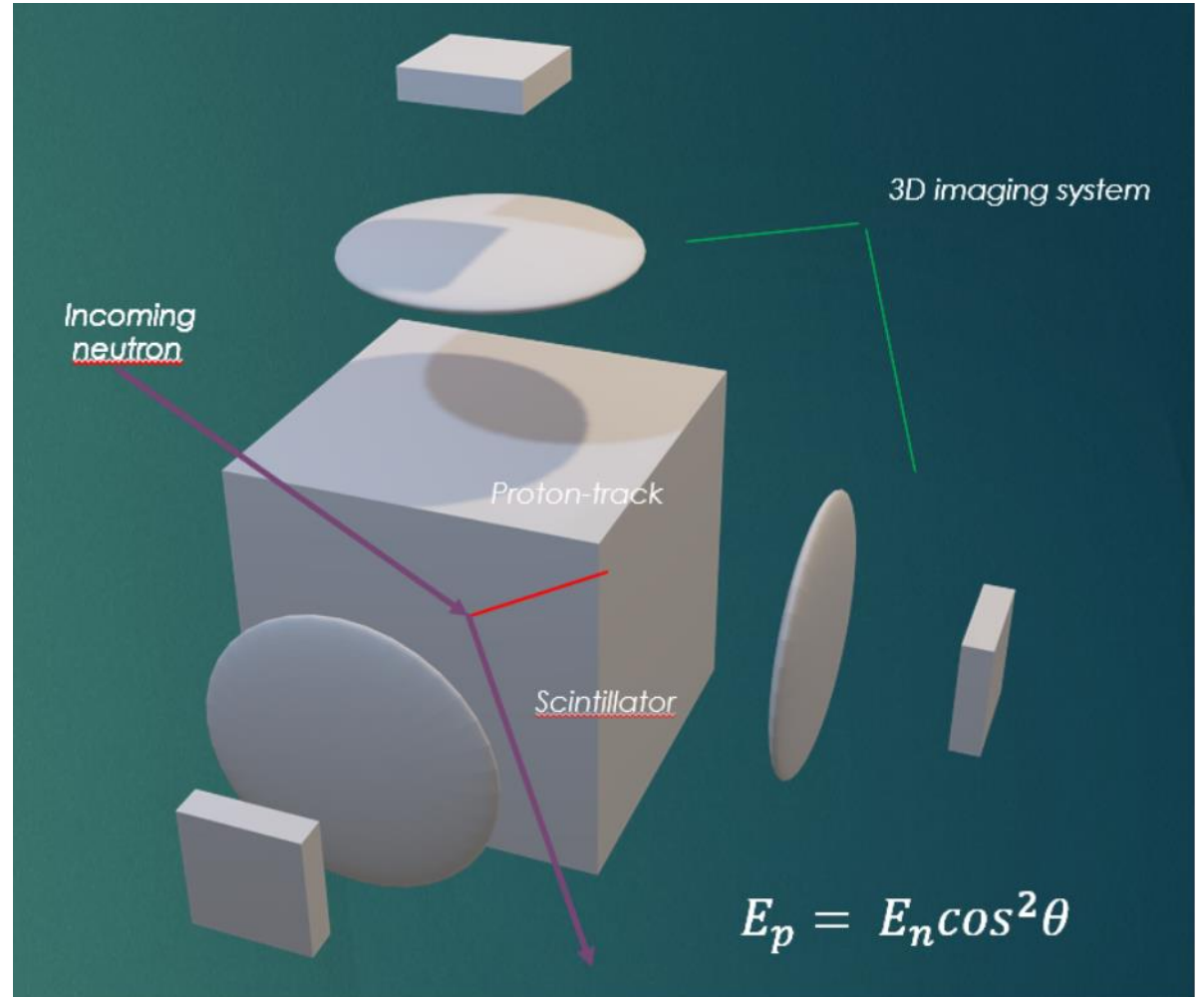


RIPTIDE *the concept extension*

RIPTIDE is a 3D imaging device for high-accuracy Proton-Recoil track reconstruction in a monolithic plastic scintillator

The monolithic arrangement:

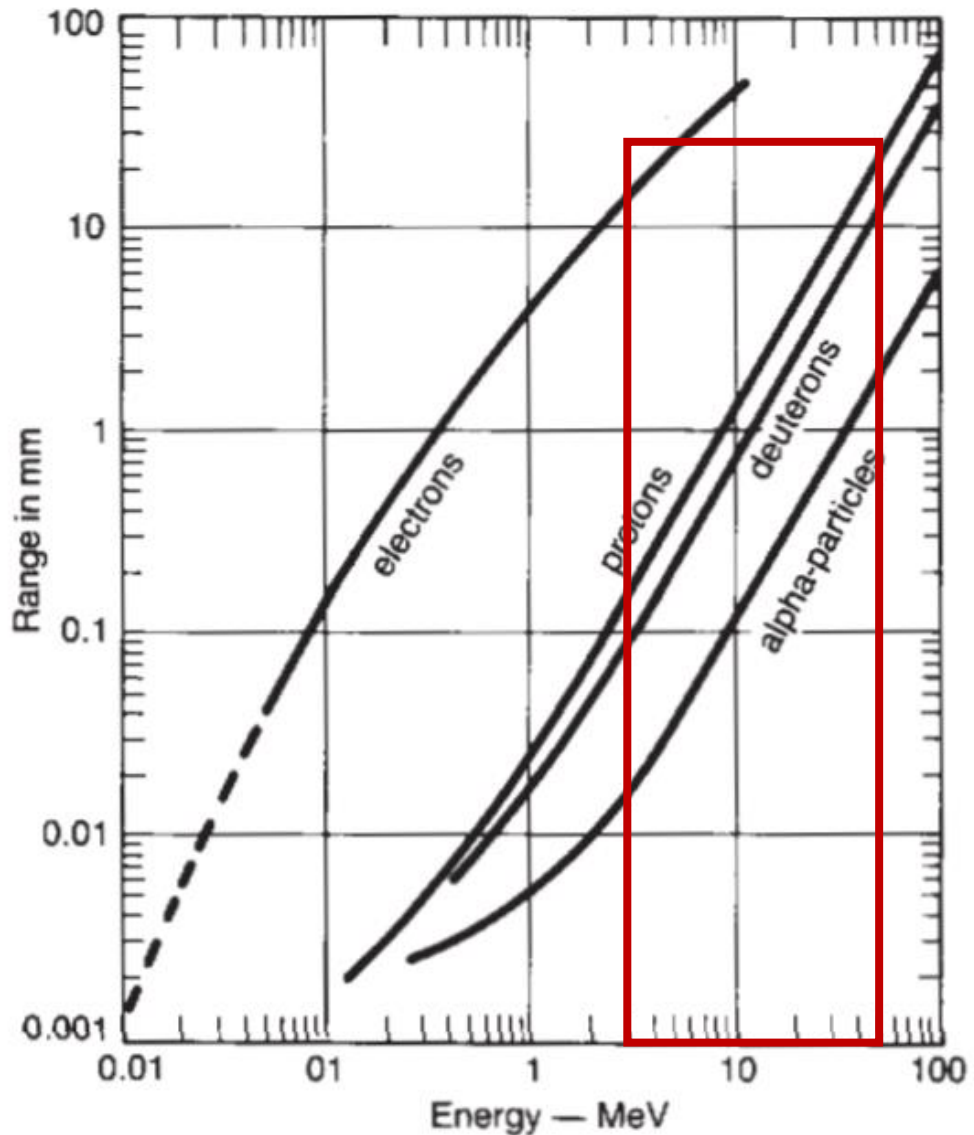
- Large boost in detection efficiency
- Several readout configurations according to the application



Single $n-p$ scattering need the primary vertex

Track discrimination by dE/dx

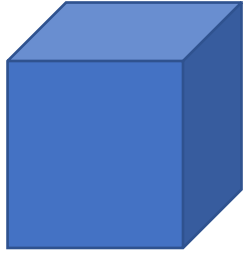
Range of Atomic Particles in Premium Plastic Scintillator



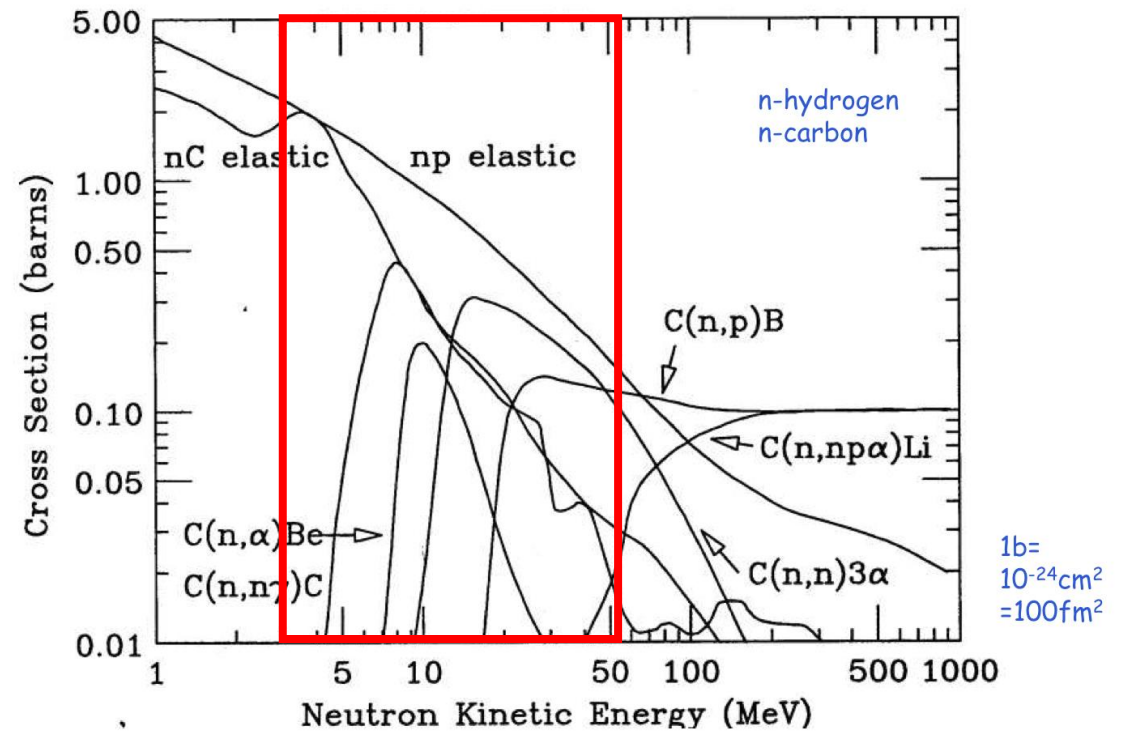
10 photons/keV for plastic scintillators (electrons)

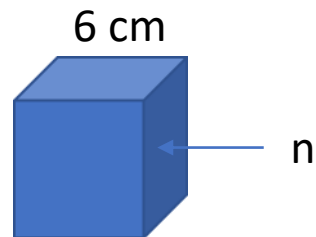
Detection volume $6 \times 6 \times 6 \text{ cm}^3$

Expected neutron energy range 3-50 MeV



Neutron Cross Sections



RIPTIDE efficiency I

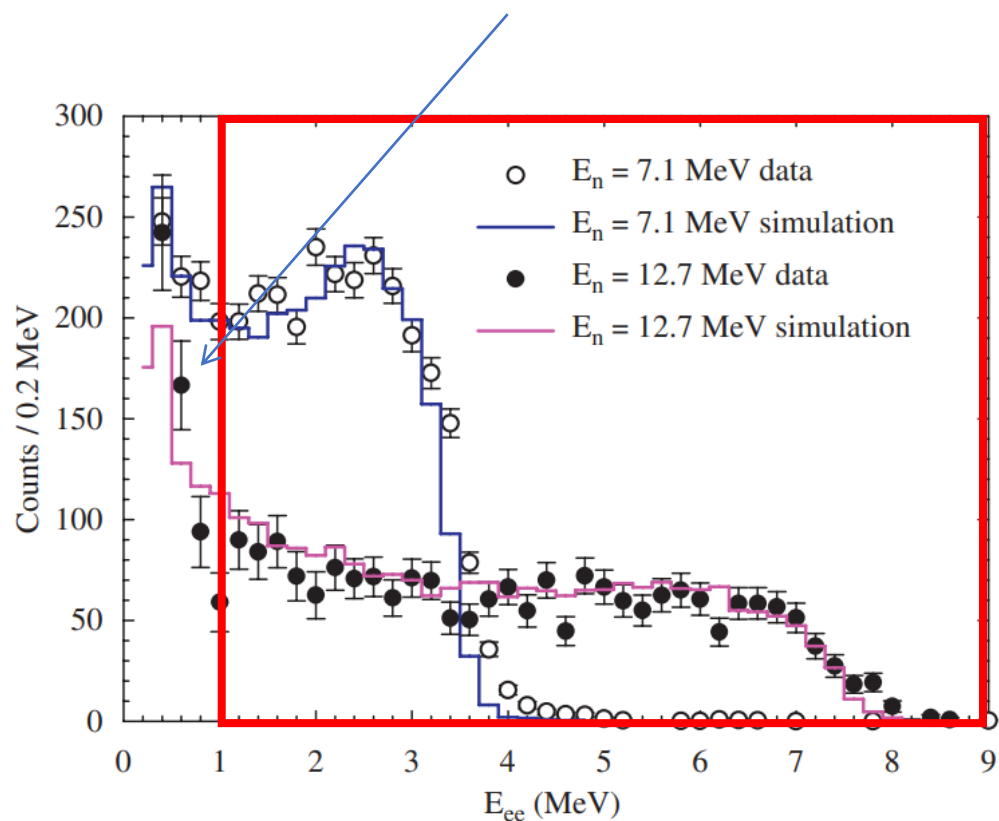
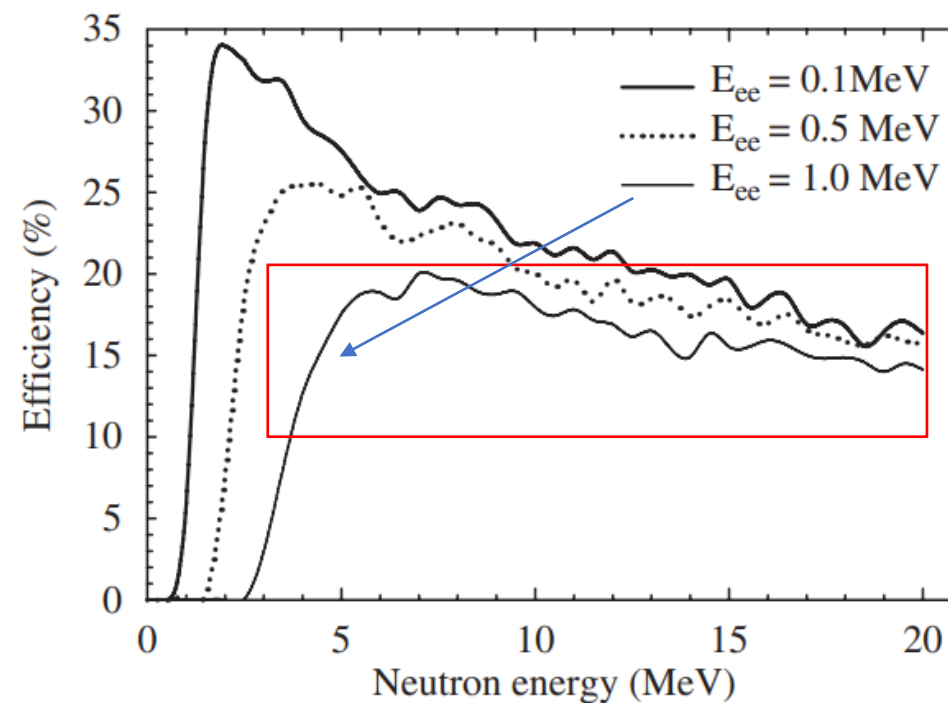
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in
Physics Research Ajournal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/nima

A large area plastic scintillator detector array for fast neutron measurements

P.C. Rout^{a,b,*}, D.R. Chakrabarty^{a,b}, V.M. Datar^{a,b}, Suresh Kumar^a, E.T. Mirgule^a,
A. Mitra^a, V. Nanal^c, R. Kujur^a^a Nuclear Physics Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai 400 085, India^b Homi Bhabha National Institute, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai 400 085, India^c Department of Nuclear and Atomic Physics, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai 400 005, India

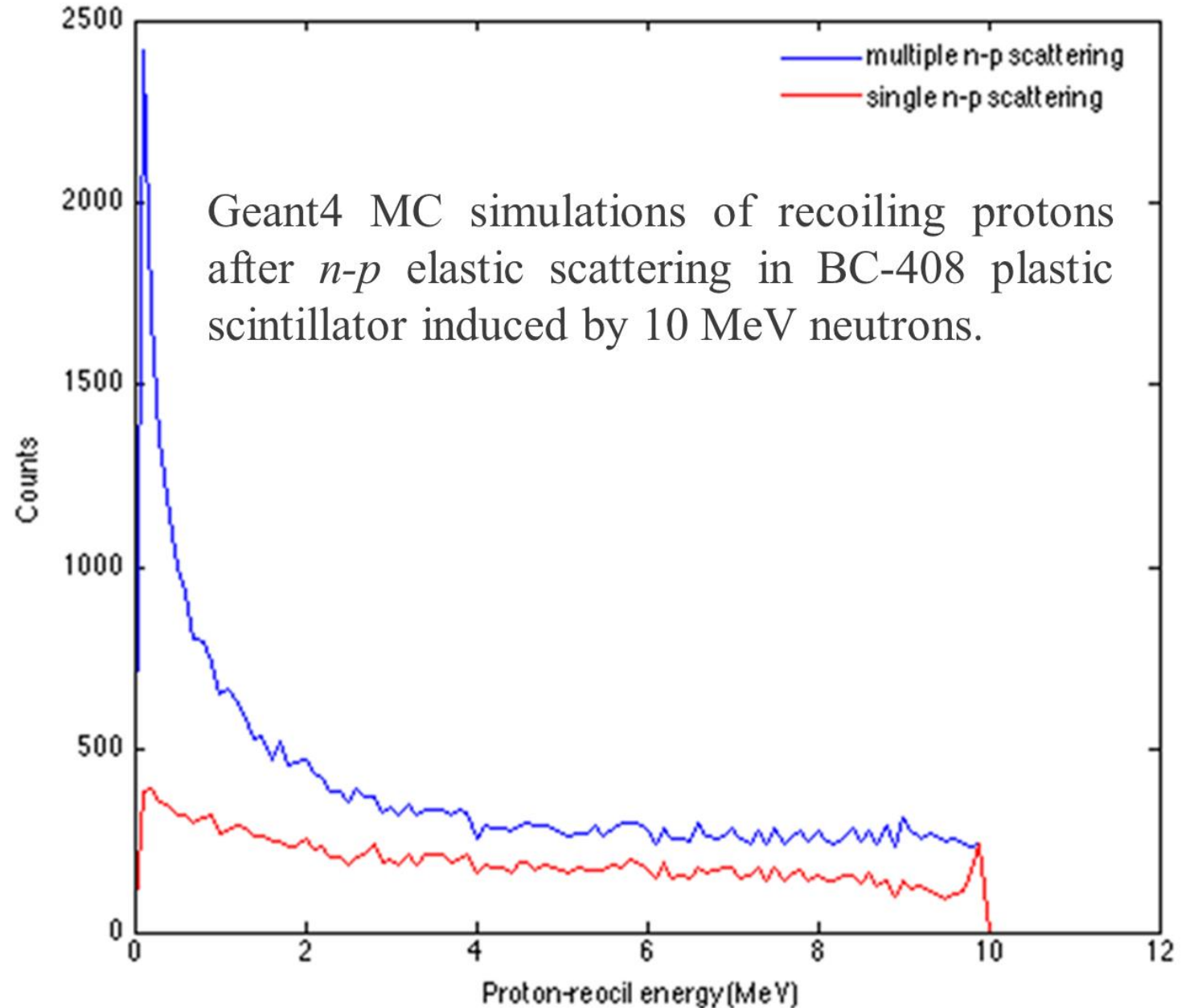
Multi scattering

**Fig. 11.** Experimental and simulated energy (electron equivalent) response of the plastic scintillator to neutrons of energies 7.1 and 12.7 MeV.**Fig. 12.** Simulated neutron efficiency of a plastic bar for different energy thresholds E_{ee} .

RIPTIDE efficiency II

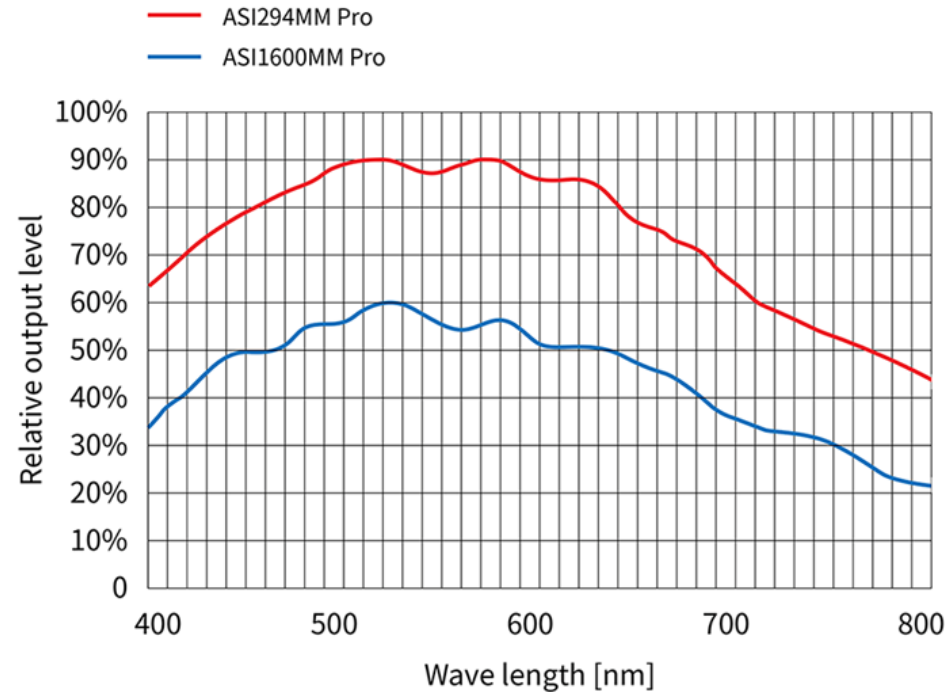
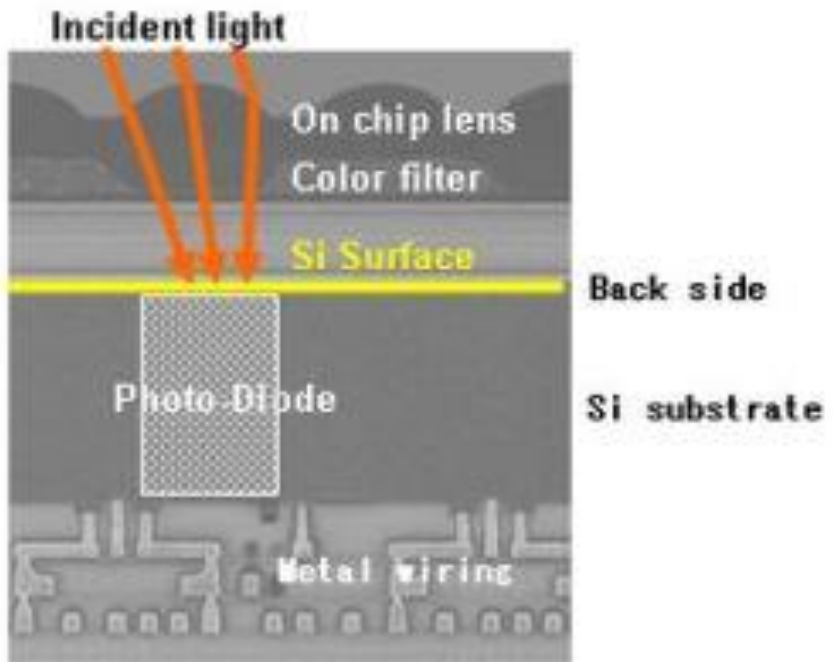
Geant4 Simulations

an efficiency of 10-20% can be achieved in the $5 < E < 20$ MeV neutron energy-range



Detector readout I

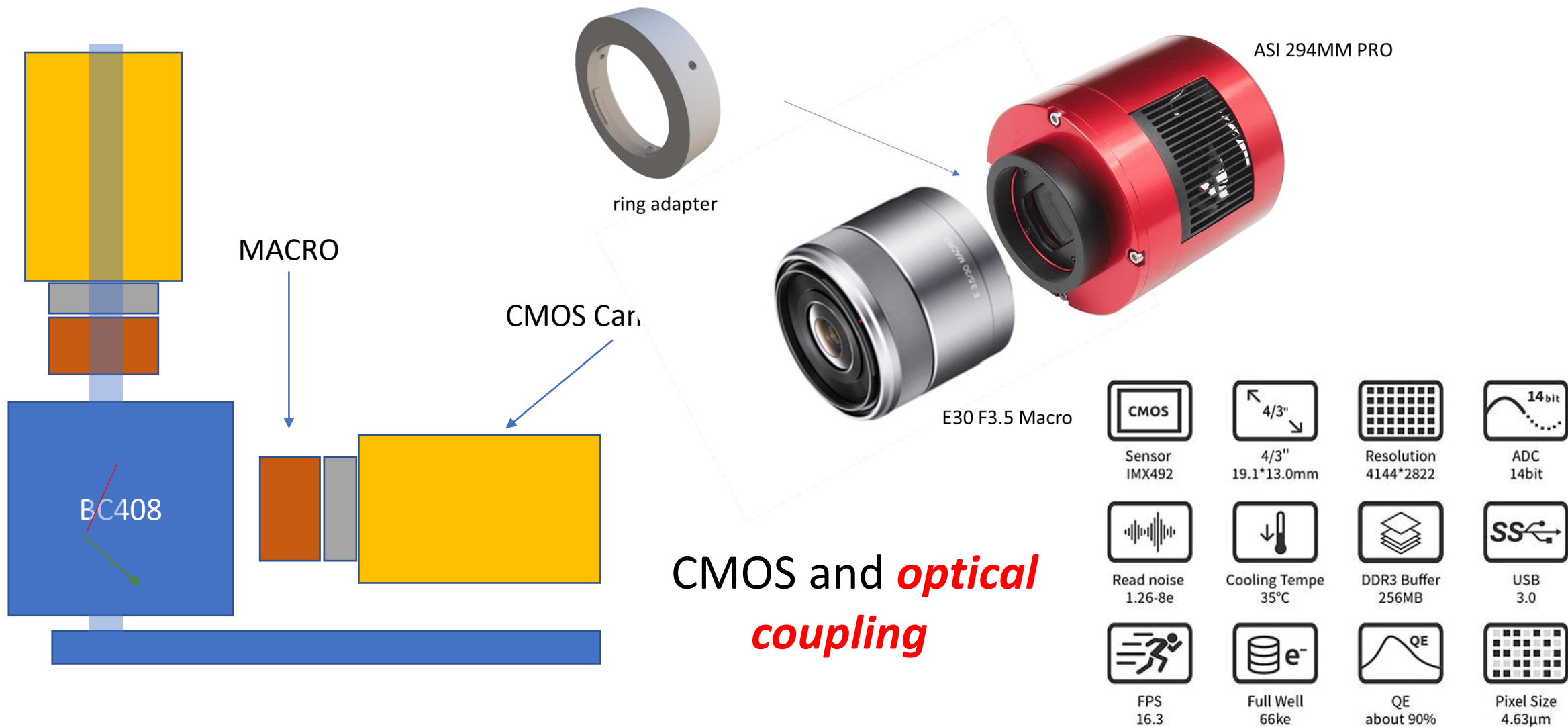
Back Illuminated, high-eff. low-noise CMOS devices
(diag. size from 1/3" to full-frame)
large pixel size (5x5 - 50x50 μm^2)



INFN-CT
Sensors & optics

RIPTIDE CMOS track imaging (test setup on 2022/23)

Camera-MACRO lenses X 2 are now available at INFN-CT

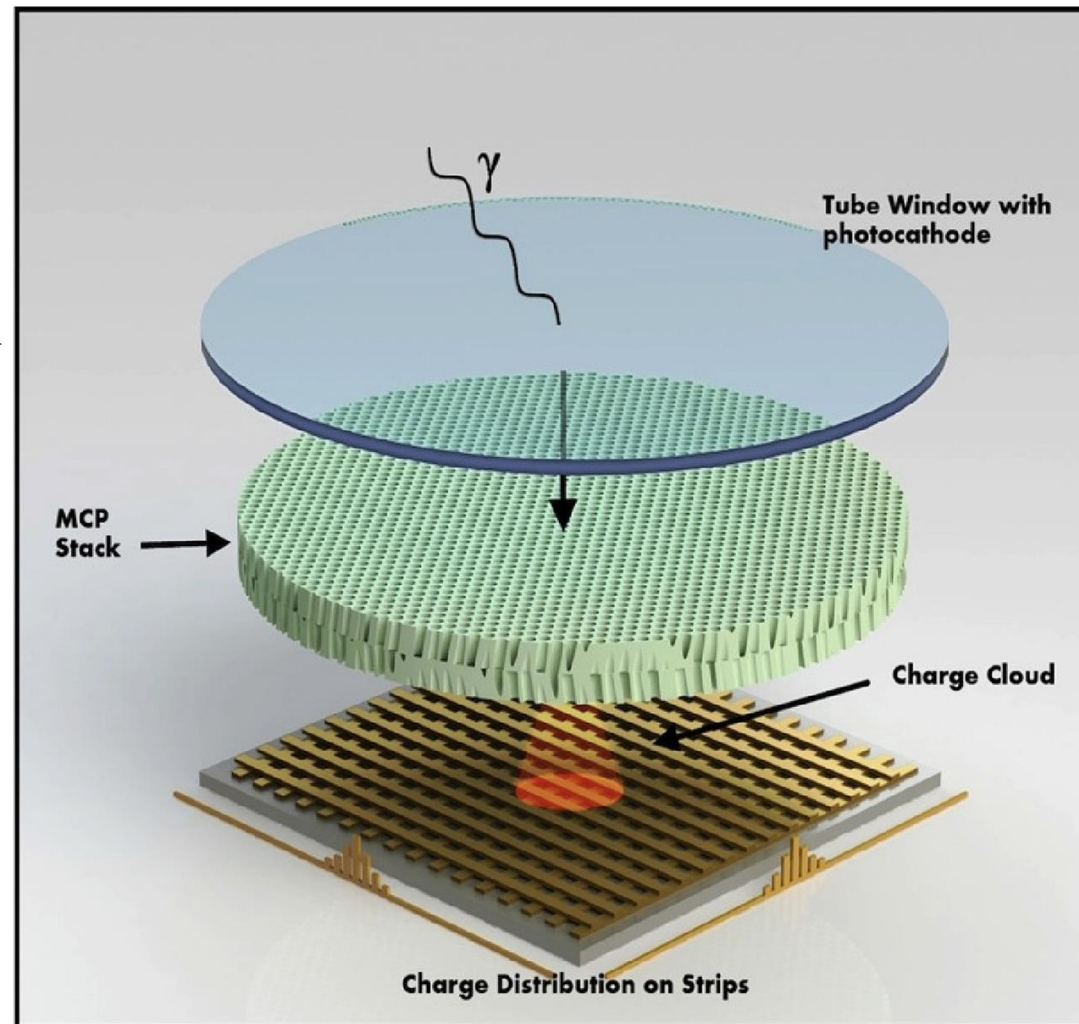


Detector readout II

High conversion efficiency photocathode coupled to MCP (single and chevron setup) with pixel sensors such as TIMEPIX or MIMOSIS

MCP-Timepix combines
suitable timing and space resolution

A.S. Tremsin, J.V. Vallerga,
Radiat. Meas. 130(2020)106228



INFN-Bo
Sensors & Data
readout (FPGA)

TIMEPIX

		Timepix3	Timepix4
Technology		IBM 130nm	TSMC 65nm
Pixel Size		55 x 55 μm	$\leq 55 \times 55 \mu\text{m}$
Pixel arrangement		3-side buttable 256 x 256	4-side buttable 256 x 256 or bigger
Operating Modes	Data driven	PC (10-bit) and TOT (14-bit)	CRW: PC and iTOT (12...16-bit)
	Frame based	TOT and TOA	
Zero-Suppressed Readout	Data driven	< 80 MHits/s	< 500 MHits/s
	Frame based	YES	YES
TOT energy resolution		< 2KeV	< 1Kev
Time resolution		1.56ns	~200ps
Readout bandwidth		5.12Gb (8x SLVS@640 Gbps)	20.48 Gbps (4x 5.12 Gbps)
Front-end		“with” Volcano	No volcano \rightarrow Dynamic gain But supply only 1.2V